

Region 2 Headquarters 3201 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804-3101 406-542-5500 January 20, 2010

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to acquire a 34,000-acre Wildlife Management Area and a 6,900-acre State Park in the Fish Creek drainage (approximate acreages), west of Alberton, in Mineral County. The purpose of this proposal is to secure critical fish and wildlife habitat and to enhance compatible recreational opportunities and access for the public.

FWP will hold a public hearing in Superior on February 2 (Tuesday) at 6:30 p.m. at the High School (multi-purpose room) to discuss the proposed acquisition and take public comment.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing shrose@mt.gov; or by viewing FWP's Internet website http://fwp.mt.gov ("Recent Public Notices," beginning January 21).

Comments should be directed by: mail to FWP Region 2, Attn: Fish Creek EA, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula 59804; phone to 406-542-5540; or email to FishCreek@mt.gov. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5 p.m. on February 19, 2010.

As part of the decision making process under MEPA, I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA very soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP land acquisition proposals, and the Commission will be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its March 11th meeting in Helena. Approval will also be necessary from the Montana Board of Land Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Mack Long Regional Supervisor

ML/sr